Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-11 /112 W

-----103294 010349Z /61

R 311710Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7337

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USINT HAVANA

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, YOU, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET-YUGOSLAV TRADE PROTOCOL FOR 1978 SIGNED IN MOSCOW

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. TRADE PROTOCOL CALLING FOR TRADE TURNOVER OF 3 BILLION DOLLARS BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE USSR IN 1978 WAS SIGNED JANUARY 27 IN MOSCOW. ACCORDING TO SHORT TASS ARTICLE IN JANUARY 28 IZVESTIA, SOVIET UNION WILL EXPORT METAL-CUTTING LATHES AND FORGING-PRESSING EQUIPMENT, ENERGY, MINING AND ROAD-BUILDING EQUIPMENT, TRACTORS AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY, AND TRUCKS AND PASSENGER CARS. YUGOSLAVIA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL EXPORT ELECTROTECHNICAL AND FOOD EQUIPMENT, COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, SHIPS, AND COMPLETE UNITS AND COMPONENTS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AUTOMOBILES AT THE KAMA AND VOLGA FACTORIES. BOTH COUNTRIES WILL EXPORT RAW MATERIALS AND CONSUMER GOODS.

END UNCLASSIFED

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2. COMMENT: SINCE SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET PUBLISHED FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS FOR 1978 BY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY, IT CANNOT YET BE DETERMINED HOW MUCH GROWTH IS REPRESENTED BY TARGET FIGURE OF THREE BILLION DOLLARS. ACCORDING TO SOVIET STATISTICS FOR FIRST 9 MONTHS OF 1977, TRADE TURNOVER WITH YUGOSLAVIA, 1,486 MILLION RUBLES (SLIGHTLY OVER \$2 BILLION AT "OFFICIAL" RATE OF EXCHANGE), HAD GROWN AT RATE OF 8.5 PERCENT OVER SAME PERIOD IN 1976. IF THIS RATE HOLDS TRUE FOR ALL OF 1977, THE GROWTH RATE FOR BILATERAL SOVIET-YUGOSLAV TRADE WILL HAVE FALLEN BELOW OVERALL GROWTH RATE IN SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE IN 1977 OF ABOUT 11 PERCENT, AND WORK AGAINST SOVIET GOAL OF INCREASING SHARE OF "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES. SOVIETS HAVE ANNOUNCED GOAL OF 10 PERCENT GROWTH IN SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE IN 1978 AND HENCE WE WOULD EXPECT THIS TO REPRESENT MINIMUM GROWTH TARGET WITH OTHER "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES, INCLUDING YUGOSLAVIA, SINCE THESE COUNTRIES' OVERALL SHARE IS PLANNED TO INCREASE TO 59 PERCENT OF SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE IN 1978. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: TRADE, AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN TRADE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 31 jan 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW01509
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780047-0439 Format: TEL

From: MOSCOW Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978014/aaaaacpy.tel

Line Count: 82 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation Codes. Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 4c17c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3739098 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SOVIET-YUGOSLAV TRADE PROTOCOL FOR 1978 SIGNED IN MOSCOW BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

TAGS: ETRD, YO, UR

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4c17c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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